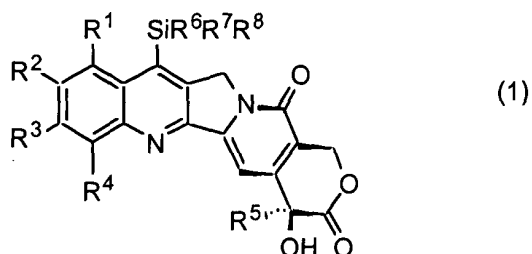


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the structure:



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are independently the same or different and are hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, an acyloxy group, a carbonyloxy group, a carbamoyloxy group, a halogen, a hydroxyl group, a nitro group, a cyano group, an azido group, a formyl group, a hydrazino group, an acyl group, an amino group,  $-SR^c$ , wherein  $R^c$  is hydrogen, an acyl group, an alkyl group, or an aryl group; or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  together form a group of the formula  $-O(CH_2)_n-$  wherein  $n$  represents the integer 1 or 2;

$R^3$  is H, F, a halogen atom, a nitro group, an amino group, a hydroxyl group, or a cyano group; or  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  together form a group of the formula  $-O(CH_2)_n-$  wherein  $n$  represents the integer 1 or 2;

$R^4$  is H, F, a  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{2-3}$  alkenyl group, a  $C_{2-3}$  alkynyl group, or a  $C_{1-3}$  alkoxy group;

$R^5$  is a  $C_{1-10}$  alkyl group, or a propargyl group; and

$R^6$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are independently a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>2-10</sub> alkenyl group, a C<sub>2-10</sub> alkynyl group, an aryl group or a  $-(CH_2)_N R^9$  group, wherein N is an integer within the range of 1 through 10 and  $R^9$  is a hydroxyl group, alkoxy group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a dialkylamino group, a halogen atom, a cyano group or a nitro group;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^4$  is H.

3. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are independently the same or different and are H, a hydroxyl group, a halogen, an amino group, a nitro group, a cyano group, a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>2-3</sub> alkenyl group, a C<sub>2-3</sub> alkynyl group or a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkoxy group.

4. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are independently the same or different and are a C<sub>1-3</sub> perhaloalkyl group, a C<sub>1-3</sub> aminoalkyl group, a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkylamino group or a C<sub>1-3</sub> dialkylamino group.

5. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are independently the same or different and are H, a methyl group, an amino group, a nitro group, a cyano group, or a hydroxyl group.

6. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are independently the same or different and are a methylamino group, a dimethylamino group, an ethylamino group, a diethylamino group, a hydroxymethyl group, an aminomethyl

group, a methylaminomethyl group, or a dimethylaminomethyl group.

7. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^3$  is F, an amino group, or a hydroxyl group.

8. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^5$  is an ethyl group.

9. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are independently the same or different and are a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a phenyl group or a  $-(CH_2)_N R^9$  group, wherein N is an integer within the range of 1 through 6 and  $R^9$  is a hydroxyl group, alkoxy group an amino group, an alkylamino group a dialkylamino group, a halogen atom, a cyano group or a nitro group.

10. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are methyl groups.

11. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  form a methylenedioxy group, or a 1,2-ethylenedioxy group.

12. The compound of Claim 1, wherein  $R^3$  is F.

13. The compound of Claim 1, wherein the compound is 7-trimethylsilyl camptothecin, 7-trimethylsilyl-10-acetoxy camptothecin, 7-trimethylsilyl-10-hydroxy camptothecin, 7-trimethylsilyl-11-fluoro camptothecin, 7-trimethylsilyl-9-fluoro camptothecin, 7-trimethylsilyl-10-fluoro camptothecin, 7-trimethylsilyl-10-amino camptothecin, 7-trimethylsilyl-11-amino camptothecin,

7-trimethylsilyl-11,	12-diflouro	camptothecin,
7-trimethylsilyl-9,	10-diflouro	camptothecin,
7-trimethylsilyl-10-amino-11-fluoro		camptothecin,
7-tert-butyl dimethylsilyl		camptothecin,
7-tert-butyl dimethylsilyl-10-acetoxy		camptothecin,
7-tert-butyl dimethylsilyl-10-hydroxy		camptothecin,
7-dimethyl-3-cyanopropylsilyl	camptothecin,	7-dimethyl-
3-halopropylsilyl	camptothecin,	7-triphenylsilyl
camptothecin,	7-triethylsilyl	camptothecin,
7-dimethylnorpiny lsilyl	camptothecin.	

14. A method of treating a patient, comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.